

Message Text

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47

ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAL-01 /125 W

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P 031125Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9356

INFO USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4172

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, MO

SUBJECT: LOS: US POSITION ON HIGH SEAS STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE

REF: A. STATE 187929 B. LONDON 9638 (NOTAL)

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON MFA DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AFFAIRS GHARBI
JULY 30 TO MAKE CLARIFICATIONS PER INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL A.

2. GHARBI'S INITIAL JOKING RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S PRESENTATION
WAS TO EXPRESS WISH THAT US WOULD JOIN THE REST OF THE
WORLD ON THIS QUESTION. LATER ON HE REMARKED THAT QUESTION
HAD REALLY EVOLVED INTO A SEMANTIC ONE. US, HE SAID,
SAW GOM'S AND OTHER STATES' CLAIMS TO "COMPETENCE" OVER
ECONOMIC ZONES AS CREEPING TERRITORIALISM. ON OTHER HAND
STATES OPPOSING "HIGH SEAS" CONCEPT (INCLUDING MOROCCO,
HE IMPLIED), SAW ISSUE AS INFRINGEMENT ON THEIR SOVEREIGNTY
OVER RESOURCES IN WATERS OF ECONOMIC ZONE. PRESSED BY
EMBOFF HE PROFESSED TO SEE NO DIFFERENCE IN SUBSTANCE TO
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THE TWO POSITIONS, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED "DIFFERENCES

IN APPROACH" WHEN QUERIED SPECIFICALLY ON RESEARCH IN THE ZONE.

3. ON OTHER MATTERS, GHARBI FELT THAT CONFERENCE'S ONLY IMPORTANT WORK WOULD BE ON COMMITTEE I. ALL ELSE "SUPER-FLUOUS", HE STATED. HE ALSO STATED THAT OAU CONFERENCE (WHICH HE DID NOT ATTEND) HAD HOPEFULLY CONVINCED "SO CALLED" GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATES (INCLUDING ALGERIA) THAT THEY HAD OBTAINED ALL THEY WERE GOING TO GET FROM THE TREATY AND SHOULD DESIST FROM FURTHER AGITATION FOR MORE CONCESSIONS.

4. GHARBI, WHO WILL AS USUAL HEAD GOM LOS DELEGATION, SAID HE WOULD NOT BE ARRIVING IN NEW YORK UNTIL AUGUST 15.

5. COMMENT: EMBOFF PERCEIVED NO SHIFTS IN GOM'S POSITION FROM THOSE REPORTED REFTEL B, ALTHOUGH SUBJECT OF SEABEDS WAS NOT EXPLORED THOROUGHLY.
ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, ADJACENT SEAS, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RABAT04172
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760298-0914
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760892/aaaadcun.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 187929
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by buchanta0>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: US POSITION ON HIGH SEAS STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE
TAGS: PLOS, MO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006